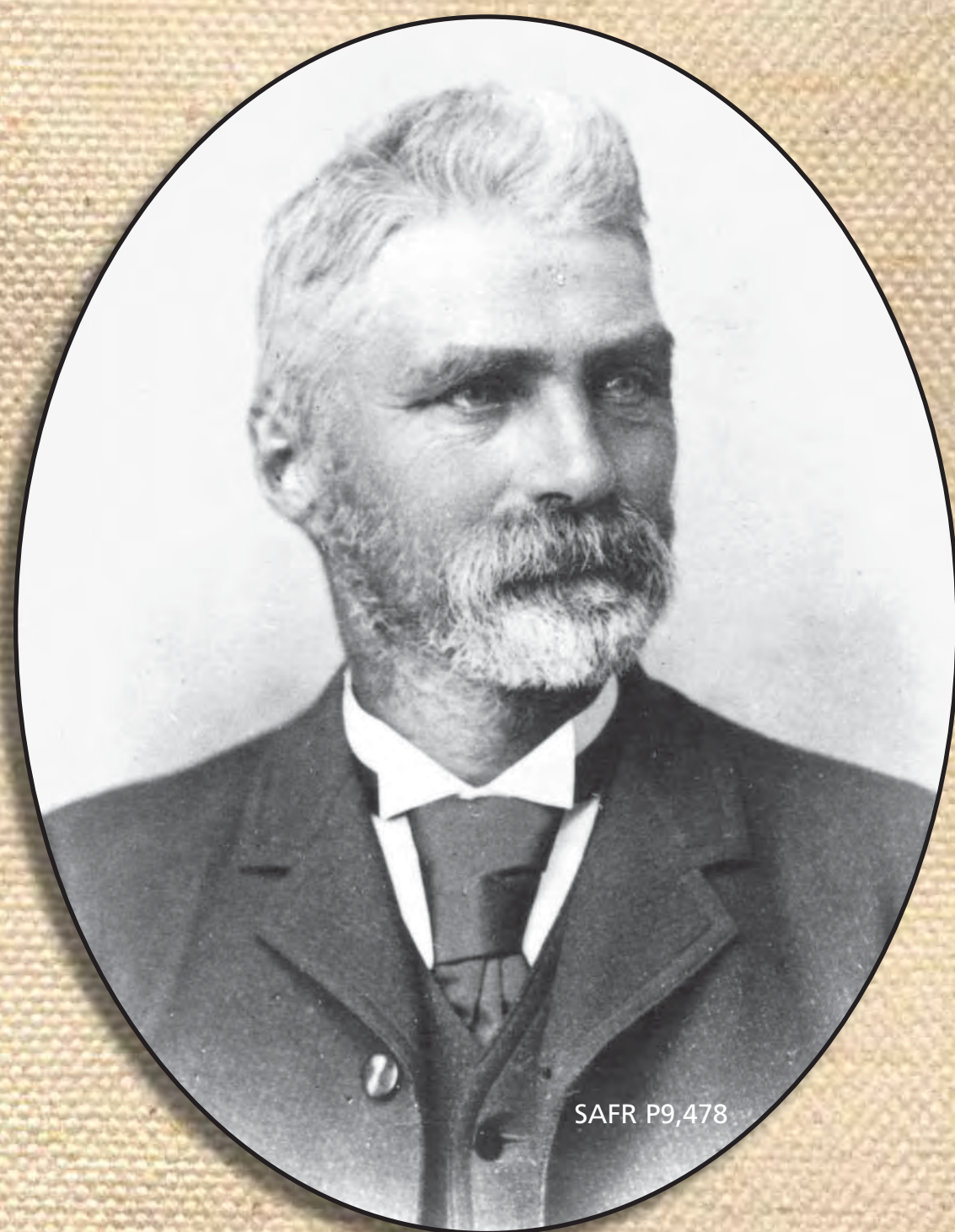
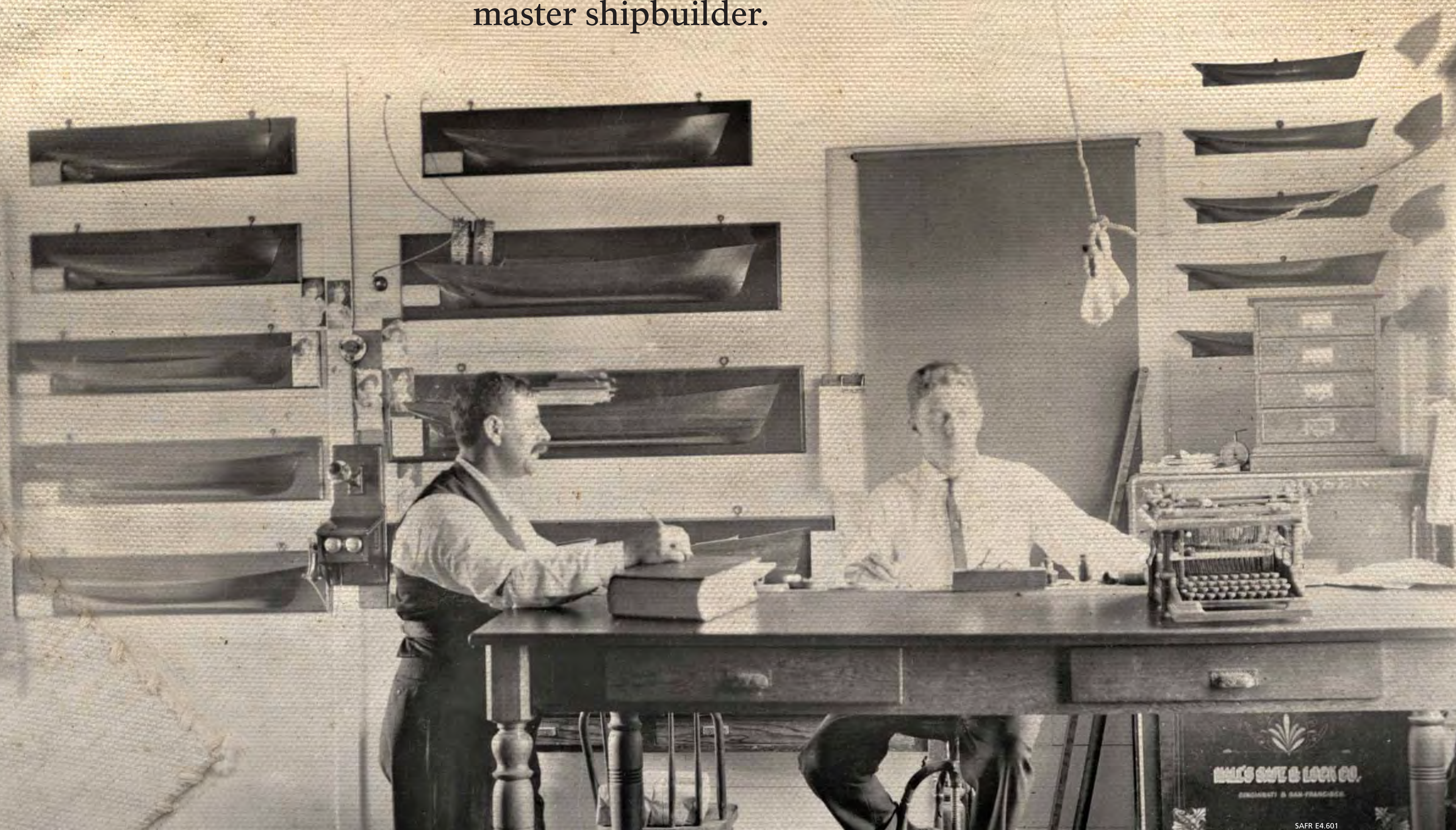


# H.D. BENDIXSEN ~ SHIPBUILDER



Hans Ditlev Bendixsen designed and built the C.A. Thayer in 1895. He is best remembered for the dozens of three and four-masted barkentines and schooners, similar to *Thayer*, that he built for the lumber trade. Bendixsen was so respected that when he died in 1902, shops closed all up and down the coast. The house flags of the major shippers—Matson, J.D. Spreckles, E.K. Wood, Eschen and Minor, James Rolph, Charles Nelson, and A.P. Lorentzen—were lowered in tribute to the master shipbuilder.



## Hans Ditlev Bendixsen

- Born in Thisted, Denmark on October 14, 1842
- Apprenticed with shipbuilders in Aalborg and Copenhagen
- Arrived in San Francisco as a ship's carpenter at age 21
- Worked in San Francisco shipyards
- Relocated to Humboldt Bay in Northern California, mid-1860s
- Built more than 115 vessels
- Retired in 1901
- Died February 12, 1902



## A Prolific Designer and Shipbuilder

The design of *Thayer* first took shape as one of these hand-carved half-hull models that line Bendixsen's office wall (above). In all, his yard built over 115 vessels, including lumber schooners, passenger steamers, and steam schooners.

## Birthplace of C.A. Thayer

Bendixsen's first yard was in Eureka, a major redwood lumber port. In 1875 he moved his operation across the narrows of Humboldt Bay to Fairhaven. *Thayer* was built in this yard and launched July 9, 1895.